This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A fully automated gemstone evaluation system for which presence of the actual gemstone is not required, comprising:

an input device adapted to receive a gemstone laboratory grading certificate via a remote communication device [predetermined gemstone data supplied by a system user from a] the gemstone laboratory grading certificate including cut type, weight, color, clarity, and cut proportions wherein the data for cut proportions include an objective measurable value for at least one of depth percentage, table percentage, girdle thickness, crown height, crown angle, pavilion depth, pavilion angle, culet amount, and type of finish;

a processing device adapted to compute a pricing estimate for use in an evaluation report, based at least upon the data included on the gemstone laboratory grading certificate [cut proportions]; and

an output device adapted to communicate the evaluation report to the system user.

Claim 2 (original). The automated gemstone evaluation system according to claim 1, wherein said evaluation report further includes a summary description of the qualities of the gemstone.

Claim 3 (original). The automated gemstone evaluation system according to claim 1, wherein said pricing estimate includes a separate price estimate for each of a plurality of different types of retail outlets.

Claim 4 (original). The automated gemstone evaluation system according to claim 1, further comprising a remote communication section, allowing for the gemstone data to be received from an input device located remotely, and allowing for the evaluation report to be communicated to an output device located remotely.

Claim 5 (original). The automated gemstone evaluation system according to claim 1, wherein said output device includes a printer for printing the evaluation report.

Claim 6 (original). The automated gemstone evaluation system according to claim 1, wherein said output device includes a display screen for displaying the evaluation report.

Claim 7 (original). The automated gemstone evaluation system according to claim 1, wherein the system user is a consumer.

Claim 8 (currently amended). A fully automated gemstone evaluation system for which the presence of the actual gemstone is not required, comprising:

an input device adapted to receive predetermined gemstone data descriptive of the physical characteristics of the gemstone to be evaluated, supplied by a system user, from a gemstone laboratory grading certificate <u>without having the gemstone be physically present to any part of the gemstone evaluation system, the gemstone data</u> including cut type, weight, color, clarity, and cut proportions;

a processing device adapted to compute a fair market pricing estimate for use in an evaluation report, based at least upon the cut proportions; and

an output device adapted to communicate the evaluation report to the system user.

Claim 9 (original). The automated gemstone evaluation system according to claim 8, wherein said evaluation report further includes a summary description of the qualities of the gemstone.

Claim 10 (original). The automated gemstone evaluation system according to claim 8, wherein said pricing estimate includes a separate price estimate for each of a plurality of different types of retail outlets.

Claim 11 (original). The automated gemstone evaluation system according to claim 8, further comprising a remote communication section, allowing for the gemstone data to be received from an input device located remotely, and allowing for the evaluation report to be communicated to an output device located remotely.

Claim 12 (original). The automated gemstone evaluation system according to claim 8, wherein said output device includes a printer for printing the evaluation report.

Claim 13 (original). The automated gemstone evaluation system according to claim 8, wherein said output device includes a display screen for displaying the evaluation report.

Claim 14 (original). The automated gemstone evaluation system according to claim 8, wherein the system user is a consumer.

Claim 15 (currently amended). A computerized method of producing a gemstone evaluation report, without the presence of the [[actual]] gemstone being required, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving predetermined data describing [[a]] the gemstone, the data being descriptive of the physical characteristics of the gemstone [to be evaluated], supplied by a system user, and from a gemstone laboratory grading certificate including cut type, weight, color, clarity, and cut proportions;

computing a fair market pricing estimate for the gemstone, based at least on the received cut proportions;

generating an evaluation report including the fair market pricing estimate; and

communicating the evaluation report to the system user.

Claim 16 (currently amended). The method of claim 15, wherein said step of computing a fair market pricing estimate for the gemstone includes:

computing an adjustment factor, based at least on the cut proportions of the gemstone; and

generating [[a]] the fair market pricing estimate from a [[the]] baseline price estimate and the computed adjustment factor.

Claim 17 (currently amended). The method of claim 16, further comprising [wherein said step of] determining [[a]] the baseline price estimate [[includes]] including:

indexing a data structure, based on the cut style, weight, color and clarity of the gemstone;

reading an indexed list price value stored in the data structure; and

adjusting the indexed list price value based on a jeweler pricing adjustment for generating said baseline price estimate.

Claim 18 (previously amended). The method of claim 15, wherein said step of communicating the evaluation report to the user includes at least one of the steps of:

printing the evaluation report on a printer; and

displaying the evaluation report on a display screen.

Claim 19 (canceled).

Claim 20 (new). The method of claim 15, further comprising:

allowing a user to modify a value of any of the physical characteristics of the gemstone; and

adjusting the fair market pricing estimate based on the modified value of the any of the physical characteristics of the gemstone.

Claim 21 (new). The automated gemstone evaluation system according to claim 8, wherein the processing device is further adapted to adjust the pricing estimate based on a laboratory identifier from the gemstone laboratory grading certificate.

Claim 22 (new). The automated gemstone evaluation system according to claim 8, wherein the processing device is further adapted to generate a set of retail price estimates by adjusting the pricing estimate by a set of retail outlet identifiers.